

# Lesson 57

## Definitions



1.	<b>acumen</b>	uh KEW men	mental sharpness	
	Synonyms >>	insight, discernment	Antonym >>	lack of perceptiveness
	Several past Presidents have been known for their political acumen.			
	Derivatives >>	acuminous, acuminate, acuminated, acumination, acuminating		
2.	<b>allegory</b>	AL uh gore ee	symbolical narrative; treatment of one subject under the guise of another	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	
	Authors frequently discuss sensitive political issues through the use of allegory.			
	Derivatives >>	allegorical, allegoric, allegorically, allegoricalness, allegorist, allegoristic, allegorized, allegorizing,		
3.	<b>autocrat</b>	AW toe krat	a person with unlimited influence and authority (usually a negative word)	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	
	The people wanted to overthrow the despotic autocrat.			
	Derivatives >>	autocracy, autocratic, autocratical, autocratically		
4.	<b>conjecture</b>	kun JEK chur	an inference or conclusion drawn or deduced by surmise or guesswork	
	Synonyms >>	supposition, surmise, guess	Antonym >>	verified statement
	The theory that the scientist offered was only a matter of conjecture.			
	Derivatives >>	conject, conjector, conjectural, conjecturally, conjectured, conjecturing, conjecturer		
5.	<b>conspicuous</b>	kun SPIK yoo us	obvious, noticeable, attracting attention	
	Synonyms >>	prominent, remarkable, salient, striking	Antonym >>	veiled; hidden
	The wife of the president was conspicuous by her absence.			
	Derivatives >>	conspicuity, conspicuously, conspicuousness		
6.	<b>domicile</b>	DOM eh sile	home or residence, abode	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	
	Because he works on both coasts, he has two domiciles.			
	Derivatives >>	domicilable, domicil, domiciliary, domiciliar		
7.	<b>excoriate</b>	ik SKOR ee ate	to strongly denounce or to censure	
	Synonyms >>	revile, berate	Antonym >>	to praise
	Prior to passing sentence on the convicted man, the judge excoriated him for stealing from the church.			
	Derivatives >>	excoriated, excoriating, excoriation		
8.	<b>gaunt</b>	GAWNT	very thin, emaciated, angular	
	Synonyms >>	lank, lean, rawboned, spare	Antonym >>	rotund, corpulent
	Prisoners in World War II concentration camps became gaunt from lack of nutrition.			
	Derivatives >>	gauntly, gauntness, gauntly		
9.	<b>incapacitate</b>	in kuh PAS eh tate	to make incapable or unfit; to deprive of capacity	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	to aid; to make capable
	A serious illness will incapacitate him, and we will be unable to go on with the journey.			
	Derivatives >>	incapacitation, incapacity		
10.	<b>iridescence</b>	ear eh DES uns	the quality of exhibiting rainbow-like colors, brilliant appearance	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	dullness; darkness
	The iridescence of the room with all the mirrors and chandeliers was magnificent.			
	Derivatives >>	iridescent, iridesce, iridescently		
11.	<b>licentious</b>	lie SEN shus	lacking moral or sexual restraint, wanton	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	restrained
	His licentious behavior caused him to lose his honored position in society.			
	Derivatives >>	licentiously, licentiousness		

12.	<b>menagerie</b>	muh NAJ uh ree	a collection of live wild animals on exhibition, a varied mixture	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	
	Her collection of glass figurines was a beautiful menagerie.			
	Derivatives >>	menagerist, menageries		
13.	<b>nihilist</b>	NIE uh list	one who believes in total rejection of established laws and institutions	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	traditionalist; one who believes in
	The anarchist was a true nihilist who hated much more than governmental restrictions.			
	Derivatives >>	nihilism, nihilistic, nihility		
14.	<b>pastiche</b>	pa STEESH	a hodgepodge	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	concert; union
	The poem is nothing more than a pastiche of images, allusions, and symbols.			
	Derivatives >>	pasticheur, pasticcio		
15.	<b>plausible</b>	PLAH zuh bul	seemingly acceptable, believable, or possible	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	unbelievable
	We need someone to develop a plausible solution to this problem.			
	Derivatives >>	plausibleness, plausibly, plausibility		
16.	<b>profundity</b>	pruh FUN deh tee	profound knowledge, intellectual depth	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	shallowness; stupidity
	Einstein had a profundity that was admired by all.			
	Derivatives >>	profound, profoundly, profoundness		
17.	<b>refuge</b>	REF yooj	shelter or place of protection	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	dangerous place
	Reservations were supposed to be places of refuge for Indians.			
	Derivatives >>	refuges		
18.	<b>rivulet</b>	RIV yuh let	a small stream, brook	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	river
	The small rivulet had almost dried up for lack of rain.			
	Derivatives >>	rivulets		
19.	<b>serpentine</b>	SUR pen teen	resembling a serpent, wily or tempting; diabolical	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	straight
	The line of dancers moved and swayed in a serpentine manner.			
	Derivatives >>	serpentinely, serpentine, serpentine, serpentine		
20.	<b>stoke</b>	STOKE	to stir up, to amply feed	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	to smother
	He stoked the fire so it would give off more heat.			
	Derivatives >>	stoked, stoking		
21.	<b>stooped</b>	STOOPD	bent forward from the middle of the back	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	erect
	Some farm workers become stooped from many years of bending over in the fields.			
	Derivatives >>	stoop, stooping, stoops		
22.	<b>temperate</b>	TEM pur ut	exercising self-control	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	extreme
	Seeing the devastating effects of alcohol on his father, he was temperate in his own liquor consumption.			
	Derivatives >>	temperance, temperately, temperateness		
23.	<b>trowel</b>	TROU ul	flat bladed hand tool used to work with mortar or to dig holes for plants	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	
	A bricklayer must have great expertise in using a trowel.			
	Derivatives >>	troweled, troweling, trowels		
24.	<b>unwieldy</b>	un WEEL dee	difficult to manage due to size	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	of manageable size
	I was not able to move the unwieldy cabinet by myself.			
	Derivatives >>	unwieldily, unwieldiness, unwieldly		
25.	<b>vivify</b>	VIV uh fie	to make more lively	
	Synonyms >>		Antonym >>	to dull; to quiet
	The clown began his antics to try to vivify the audience.			
	Derivatives >>	vivid, vividity, vivific, vivificate, vivification		

## Lesson 57

### Matching Test



Directions: Choose the definition that best matches the meaning of the vocabulary word. Place the answer of your choice in the space provided.

### Exercise A

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>_____ 1. acumen</p> <p>_____ 2. allegory</p> <p>_____ 3. autocrat</p> <p>_____ 4. conjecture</p> <p>_____ 5. conspicuous</p> <p>_____ 6. domicile</p> <p>_____ 7. excoriate</p> <p>_____ 8. gaunt</p> <p>_____ 9. incapacitate</p> <p>_____ 10. iridescence</p> <p>_____ 11. licentious</p> <p>_____ 12. menagerie</p> | <p>a. obvious; noticeable</p> <p>b. lacking moral or sexual restraint</p> <p>c. symbolic narrative</p> <p>d. rainbow-like colors; brilliance</p> <p>e. very thin; emaciated; angular</p> <p>f. mental sharpness</p> <p>g. a collection of animals</p> <p>h. home or residence</p> <p>i. person with unlimited authority</p> <p>j. to make incapable or unfit</p> <p>k. conclusion drawn by guesswork</p> <p>l. to denounce strongly; to censure</p> |
|---|---|

### Exercise B

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>_____ 1. nihilist</p> <p>_____ 2. pastiche</p> <p>_____ 3. plausible</p> <p>_____ 4. profundity</p> <p>_____ 5. refuge</p> <p>_____ 6. rivulet</p> <p>_____ 7. serpentine</p> <p>_____ 8. stoke</p> <p>_____ 9. stooped</p> <p>_____ 10. temperate</p> <p>_____ 11. trowel</p> <p>_____ 12. unwieldy</p> <p>_____ 13. vivify</p> | <p>a. resembling a serpent; diabolical</p> <p>b. shelter or place of protection</p> <p>c. tool used to work with mortar</p> <p>d. exercising self-control</p> <p>e. a hodgepodge</p> <p>f. to make more lively</p> <p>g. bent forward for middle of back</p> <p>h. seemingly acceptable; believable</p> <p>i. difficult to manage because of size</p> <p>j. profound knowledge</p> <p>k. small stream or brook</p> <p>l. to stir up; to feed amply</p> <p>m. one who believes in rejection of laws and institutions</p> |
|---|---|

# Lesson 57

## Sentence Completion



acumen	allegory	autocrat	conjecture
conspicuous	domicile	excoriate	gaunt
incapacitated	iridescence	licentious	menagerie

- Known for his political \_\_\_\_\_, the man began to \_\_\_\_\_ the practices of the ruling party; because of his mental sharpness, the people listened to his denouncing and censuring with some determination to alter their actions.
- The dictator was a selfish \_\_\_\_\_ whose word was law and whose people lived close to starvation with bones showing through the skin of their \_\_\_\_\_ bodies.
- It was easy to see the ring on her hand; it was made \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the gem when exposed to light.
- The politician's \_\_\_\_\_ acts with the prostitute caused him to be removed from office; the public would not condone his wanton behavior.
- Her collection of figurines was quite a \_\_\_\_\_, a varied mixture of clowns and dancers.
- The author discussed the subject of economics under the guise of a farm through the use of \_\_\_\_\_.
- We tried to make the journey, but we were \_\_\_\_\_ by the flu; when we became sick, we were incapable of traveling.
- The theory which the scientist offered was only a matter of \_\_\_\_\_ and was not scientifically valid since it was based on guesswork.
- The man regarded the fabulously decorated as mansion his home, frequently referring to it as his \_\_\_\_\_.

## Lesson 57



nihilist	pastiche	plausible	profundity	refuge
rivulet	serpentine	stoke	stooped	temperate
trowel	unwieldy	vivify		

10. Parker's Stream, a \_\_\_\_\_ which feeds into the Trinity River, wanders like a snake in \_\_\_\_\_ fashion for five miles.
11. The bricklayer was \_\_\_\_\_ from frequently bending over to scoop up cement with his \_\_\_\_\_ and smoothing the mortar on the courses of bricks.
12. The collection of glass is a mere hodgepodge, a \_\_\_\_\_ of cut pieces and broken pieces.
13. Because the man has such an intellectual depth, it is not likely that anyone else here can match his \_\_\_\_\_.
14. His price in his physical adroitness prevented his asking anyone for help in moving the \_\_\_\_\_ bulk, regardless of how unmanageable it was.
15. After the boys were taught to properly \_\_\_\_\_ a fire so that it would give off more heat, they spent the entire night stirring and feeding it.
16. Although \_\_\_\_\_ with regard to food and drink, Joe had no self control when he gambled.
17. In order to make the audience livelier, the clown began a routine of ridiculous antics; one way or another, he would \_\_\_\_\_ the spectators.
18. We could not offer a \_\_\_\_\_ excuse for our behavior, so our parents were unwilling to believe us.
19. The anarchist was a power-mad \_\_\_\_\_; he would not be happy until he saw a total rejection of established laws and institutions from all the people.
20. This wildlife \_\_\_\_\_ will offer safety to many endangered species.